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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Nanda D. Sinha

Application No.: 09/879,859

Group: 1637

Filed: June 12, 2001

Examiner: J. Riley

Confirmation No.: 3484

For: METHOD OF PREVENTING MODIFICATION OF SYNTHETIC  
OLIGONUCLEOTIDES

<b>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION</b>	
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REPLY TO REQUEST FOR ELECTION OF SPECIES

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In the Office Action mailed from the United States Patent and Trademark Office on October 1, 2004, Applicant has been requested to elect a species for the solvent and for the acrylonitrile scavenger in Claims 1-97. Responsive to the Request, Applicant hereby elects as the solvent an "aqueous basic solvent" and as the acrylonitrile scavenger "a sterically-hindered primary aliphatic amine". Pending Claims readable on the elected species are Claims 2-23; 25-65 and 67-95.

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If the Examiner believes that a telephone conversation would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call Applicant's Attorney at the address below.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C.

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